

Recent Improvements in Production Methods in Nora Coalbed Methane Field Southwestern Virginia

L. Schanken, M.J. Kovarik, T. Vactor, C.A. Eckert, Equitable Resources

Since the first well was drilled in 1988, coalbed methane production in the Nora field has steadily increased to a current rate of 70 MMcfd. Many factors are responsible for this increase such as multi-stage completions, infill drilling, efficient field operations, and rapid development and dewatering of new parts of the field. In addition, aggressive pipeline and compression planning and installation have allowed for maximum production benefit of the completed coal seams. Most recently, larger fracs and horizontal drilling may take production rates to levels not attainable through recent practices.